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certifying ORDINANCE and approving the need for the professional services consultant to provide collection services to the City of Fort Wayne Neighborhood Code Enforcement Department.

> WHEREAS, the City of Fort Wayne desires to have a professional collection company provide collection services for the City of Fort Wayne Neighborhood Code Enforcement Department's collection accounts; and

> WHEREAS, such services would be responsible for the collection of delinquent accounts, and maintaining records as they pertain to the Neighborhood Code Enforcement Department's collection accounts; and

> WHEREAS, the City of Fort Wayne does not have the capability of performing this work with in-house forces;

> WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Code Enforcement Department believes that there is a need to employ a consultant to perform this service; and

> WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the amount to be paid to said consultant, on an annual basis, will be in excess of \$15,000.00.

> NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE:

> SECTION 1. The Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne hereby certifies and approves the need for the services of a consultant for collection account services for the City of Fort Wayne Neighborhood Code Enforcement Department.

> SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor.

> > Councilmember

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

moth City Attorney J. Timothy McCaulay

and duly adopted, recommittee on for recommendation)	and Public Hear	ime by title ing to be h	e and referred (and the City eld after due )	Plan Commission egal notice, at
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		PAUL HELM	KE, MAYOR	



### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Members of the City Council

FROM:

Development/

Director,

Community

DATE:

May 26, 1992

SUBJECT: Collection Services

Prior to May of this year, Neighborhood Code Enforcement had an employee assigned to perform the task of cost recovery for actions taken by this department. Some of the actions taken by Neighborhood Code Enforcement are demolitions, boarding, emergency orders to repair, cisterns, etc, which are funded by the Community Development Block Grant.

The person holding this position recently retired, and we decided to take the opportunity to review the function. As a result of our review, we have determined that the City could contract the collections service to a private firm and realize some cost savings while increasing collections. point, by contracting out the service, we will receive the immediate savings for the cost and overhead of position--approximately \$35,000.

The City's efforts at collections have improved significantly over the last several years. Because of the depth of resources to collect using a private agency, the amount collected versus the amount charged off should increase. chart below shows the recent progress.

<u>Year</u>	New <u>Accounts</u>	Amount <u>Collected</u>	Amount <u>Charged Off</u>
1991	\$ 376,856	\$ 110,296	\$ 206,819
1990	\$ 279,800	\$ 91,177	\$ 350,678
1989	\$ 257,636	\$ 75,548	\$ 447,622

The collection agency has considerably more resources than our one staff person devoted to this effort in the past, and we anticipate a higher rate of collections. We will be awarding this contract for a twelve (12) month period, and evaluating the cost benefit after the first year.

The contracting out of this service requires approval under the contract wth the IAM. We have reviewed the matter with the appropriate bargaining unit representatives, and they have approved contracting out the service.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The City ordinance on consultant services requires approval by the Council on the need for consultant services. We believe that there is a clear need and benefit to the City to contract this service with a private sector agendy, and recommend Council approve this attached ordinance authorizing us to proceed with a contract for collection services.

As always, should you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Neighborhood Code Enforcement Administrator Gary Baeten.

GP/GB/gb

#### DIGEST SHEET

TITLE OF ORDINANCE ORDINANCE/CONSULTANT
TITLE OF ORDINANCE ORDINANCE/CONSULTANT
DEPARTMENT REQUESTING ORDINANCE NEIGHBORHOOD CODE ENFORCEMENT
SYNOPSIS OF ORDINANCE CONSULTANT WOULD PROVIDE COLLECTION ACCOUNT
SERVICES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT.
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ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE (PRESIDENT)

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

# MARK E. GiaQUINTA, CHAIR DONALD J. SCHMIDT, VICE CHAIR EDMONDS, RAVINE

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DATED: 6-9-92)